

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the Office Action of May 6, 2004.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application and all presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-16 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4, 7, and 12 have been directly amended herein. The prior art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims. The Applicants believe that no new matter has been added.

Claim 1

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as purportedly being anticipated by the references US 6,157,435. Claim 1, as amended, reads as follows:

1. A digital image routing system, comprising:
 means for *receiving a digital image packet from a customer* that includes *a digital image from a digital camera and a customer preference parameter*; and
 means for transmitting the digital image packet to a remote digital image editing system selected according to the customer preference parameter.

(Emphasis added). The Applicants traverse the rejection and submit that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102 should be withdrawn because '435 does not disclose, teach, or suggest the highlighted portions in amended claim 1 above. In particular, '435 teaches scanning information from an envelope that includes therein standard film. Reference '435 does not disclose, teach, or suggest "receiving a digital image packet from a customer that includes a digital image from a digital camera and a customer preference parameter." Thus, the rejection to claim 1 should be withdrawn.

In addition, the Applicants respectfully submit that pending dependent claims 2 and 3 include every feature of independent claim 1. Thus, pending dependent claims 2 and 3 are allowable over the prior art of record. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Claim 4

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as purportedly being anticipated by the references US 6,157,435. Claim 4, as amended, reads as follows:

4. A digital image enhancement system, comprising:
 means for *receiving a digital image packet from a customer* that includes *a digital image from a digital camera and a customer preference parameter*;
 means for enhancing the digital image based on the customer preference parameter; and
 means for transmitting an enhanced digital image packet that includes an enhanced digital image and an enhancement description packet that describes the enhancements made for each of the digital images.

(Emphasis added). The Applicants traverse the rejection and submit that the rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102 should be withdrawn because '435 does not disclose, teach, or suggest the highlighted portions in amended claim 4 above. In particular, '435 teaches scanning information from an envelope that includes therein standard film. Reference '435 does not disclose, teach, or suggest "receiving a digital image packet from a customer that includes a digital image from a digital camera and a customer preference parameter." Thus, the rejection to claim 4 should be withdrawn.

In addition, the Applicants respectfully submit that pending dependent claims 5 and 6 include every feature of independent claim 4. Thus, pending dependent claims 5 and 6 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 7

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as purportedly being anticipated by the references US 6,157,435. Claim 7, as amended, reads as follows:

7. A digital image routing method, comprising the steps of:
 receiving a digital image packet from a digital camera that includes ***a digital image from a digital camera and a customer preference parameter***;
and
 transmitting the digital image packet to a remote digital image editing system selected according to the customer preference parameter.

(Emphasis added). The Applicants traverse the rejection and submit that the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102 should be withdrawn because ‘435 does not disclose, teach, or suggest the highlighted portions in amended claim 7 above. In particular, ‘435 teaches scanning information from an envelope that includes therein standard film. Reference ‘435 does not disclose, teach, or suggest “receiving a digital image packet from a customer that includes a digital image from a digital camera and a customer preference parameter.” Thus, the rejection to claim 7 should be withdrawn.

In addition, the Applicants respectfully submit that pending dependent claims 9-11 include every feature of independent claim 7. Thus, pending dependent claims 9-11 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 12

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as purportedly being anticipated by the references US 6,157,435. Claim 12, as amended, reads as follows:

12. A digital image enhancement method, comprising the steps of:
receiving *a digital image packet from a digital camera* that includes *a digital image from a digital camera and a customer preference parameter*;
enhancing the digital image based on the customer preference parameter;
and
transmitting an enhanced digital image packet that includes an enhanced digital image and an enhancement description packet that describes the enhancements made for each of the digital images.

(Emphasis added). The Applicants traverse the rejection and submit that the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102 should be withdrawn because ‘435 does not disclose, teach, or suggest the highlighted portions in amended claim 12 above. In particular, ‘435 teaches scanning information from an envelope that includes therein standard film. Reference ‘435 does not disclose, teach, or suggest “receiving a digital image packet from a customer that includes a digital image from a digital camera and a customer preference parameter.” Thus, the rejection to claim 12 should be withdrawn.

In addition, the Applicants respectfully submit that pending dependent claims 13-16 include every feature of independent claim 12. Thus, pending dependent claims 13-16 are allowable over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully request that all outstanding rejections be withdrawn and that this application and all presently pending claims be allowed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding Applicant's response, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the Applicant's undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,



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